

**Response Under 37 CFR 1.116**

**Expedited Procedure**

**Examining Group 3781**

Application No. 10/525,914

Paper Dated: January 27, 2010

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of October 28, 2009

Attorney Docket No. 0388-050243

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

1-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) A container stopper comprising a core formed of an elastic material and having a liquid-contact surface and an outer peripheral surface continuous with the liquid-contact surface, both the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface being coated with a skin made of a synthetic resin,

wherein said skin is a skin made of a polyester resin or a synthetic resin having a polyester resin as a main component thereof,

said skin being bonded to said core via a bonding layer;

said bonding layer includes a core-side adhesion forming layer bonded to the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface and a skin-side adhesion forming layer bonded to the skin; and

said skin is bonded to the core by thermal fusion of the core-side adhesion forming layer and the skin-side adhesion forming layer.

15. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 14, wherein said skin is a skin made of polyethylene terephthalate.

16. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 14, wherein both said skin-side adhesion forming layer and said core-side adhesion forming layer are polyethylene bonding layers.

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17. (Currently Amended) The container stopper as defined in claim 14, wherein said core is formed of a synthetic resin ~~having elasticity~~.

18. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 14, wherein said skin is bonded in a stretched state to said core and said skin maintains this stretched state after its bonding to the core.

19. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 18, wherein part of an outer surface of said skin located on the outer peripheral surface of said core is coated with at least one of silicone and silicone oil.

20. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 19, wherein a lubricant is added to said at least one of silicone and silicone oil.

21. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 20, wherein said lubricant is at least one of substances selected from fatty acid amides, polyhydric alcohol fatty acid esters and their derivatives, particulate polyethylene lubricants, and silicone particles.

22. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 19, wherein the part of the outer surface of said skin located on the outer peripheral surface of said core and coated with said at least one of silicone and silicone oil is surface-treated.

23-26. (Cancelled).

27. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 15, wherein said skin is bonded in a stretched state to said core and said skin maintains this stretched state after its bonding to the core.

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28. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 16, wherein said skin is bonded in a stretched state to said core and said skin maintains this stretched state after its bonding to the core.

29. (Previously Presented) The container stopper as defined in claim 17, wherein said skin is bonded in a stretched state to said core and said skin maintains this stretched state after its bonding to the core.